Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 COA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 EB-11 OMB-01 IO-12 RSR-01 /137 W

R 040900 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1153
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
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CONFIDENTIAL NOUAKCHOTT 342

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SS MR MO & AG

SUBJECT: NOUAKCHOTT CONFERENCE ON SPANISH SAHARA

REF: A. MADRID 2306; B. NOUAKCHOTT 0274; C. NOUAKCHOTT 614 12/11/72.

- 1. SUMMARY. FONMINS MOROCCO, ALGERIA INVITED TO NOUAKCHOTT MAY 8 TO DISCUSS FUTURE SPANISH SAHARA. MAURITANIANS HOPE MEETING WILL HELP DISCOURAGE MOROCCO FROM SEEKING BILATERAL DEAL WITH SPAIN OVER SAHARA.
- 2. FONMIN MOUKNASS ADVISED ME MAY 3 THAT HE NOW EXPECTS MEET WITH BENHIMA AND BOUTEFLIKA IN NOUAKCHOTT MAY 8 TO REVIEW SPANISH SAHARA PROBLEM. MEETING HAD BEEN SET FOR MAY 7 BUT BOUTEFLIKA HAD SINCE ASKED ONE DAY DEFERRAL BECAUSE HE MUST ACCOMPANY BOUMEDIENNE TO TUNIS FOR TALKS WITH BOURGUIBA OVER HOMING

WEEKEND.

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3. ASKED WHAT HE EXPECTED NOUAKCHOTT MEETING TO ACHIEVE, MOUKNASS REPLIED HE HOPED IT WOULD SERVE RESTORE UNITY OF APPROACH VIS A VIS SPAIN ON SAHARAN ISSUE. HE INDICATED GIRM STILL IRRITATED AT WHAT IT VIEWS AS MOROCCAN DEFECTION AT UNGA LAST

FALL FROM UNIFIED STAND AGREED ON AT NOUADHIBOU CONFERENCE (REF B). SAID IT VITAL THAT COMMON NEGOTIATING FRONT BE MAINTAINED AND AVERRED THAT THIS EFFECTIVELY WAS ALSO SPAIN'S WISH AS REITERATED MOST RECENTLY BY LOPEZ BRAVO DURING HIS BRIEF APRIL VISIT TO NOUAKCHOTT (REF C).

4. ASKED IF FONMINS MEETING WAS PREFACE TO GATHERING OF CHIEFS OF STATE, WHICH PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH HAD FORECAST ON HIS RETURN FROM ALGIERS LAST WEEK, MOUAKNSS REPLIED IT WAS "ANTICIPATED" THAT COS WOULD MEET TO DISCUSS SAHARA SOON BUT THIS DEPENDED ON COURSE OF NEXT WEEK'S CONVERSATIONS AT FONMIN LEVEL. MURPHY

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